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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/092,078	03/06/2002	James Turek	13457	8516

44986 7590 09/20/2004

WELSH & KATZ, LTD. (ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS)
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CHICAGO, IL 60606

EXAMINER

DINH, PHUONG K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2839

DATE MAILED: 09/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/092,078	TUREK ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Phuong KT Dinh	2839	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 12-15 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 18-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 21 and 22 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 June 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant request for reconsideration of the election/restriction of the last office action is persuasive and, therefore, the election/restriction of the action is withdrawn.

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because: Figure 4, lead line to wire not wall.
2. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement-drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liburdi (U. S. Patent 4,541,174) in view of Coldren (U. S. Patent 4,214,361).

5. Regarding claim 18, Liburdi discloses a method for making a connector for connecting an associated electrical component having a tab type electrical terminal, see figures 5, 7, to an associated conductor comprising: forming a plurality of connector housing base 10, forming a plurality of contacts 20 on a contact carrier 40, each of the contacts being a second predetermined distance from each contact. Aligning a first of the plurality of contacts 20 with a first of the plurality of housing base 10 and securing the first of the plurality of contacts in the first of the housing base with which the first of the plurality of contact is aligned. Liburdi discloses the claimed invention except for the housing base carrier. Coldren discloses the housing base carrier at 44. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Liburdi to provide the housing base carrier as taught by Coldren because this would simplify separation of the housing.

6. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liburdi (U. S. Patent 4,541,174) in view of Coldren (U. S. Patent 4,214,361) and further in view of Seidler (U. S. Patent 5,571,034).

7. Regarding claim 19, Liburdi and Coldren disclose the claimed invention except for the step of indexing the housing base. Seidler, see figure 5, 6 and column 5, discloses the step of indexing the housing base. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Liburdi and Coldren to provide the indexing the housing base so as to enable accurate positioning of contact and holder.

8. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liburdi (U. S. Patent 4,541,174) in view of Coldren (U. S. Patent 4,214,361) and further in view of Stenz (U. S. Patent 4,404,744).

9. Regarding claim 20, Liburdi and Coldren disclose the claimed invention except for an elongate strip. Stenz discloses an elongate strip at 9 and 10. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Liburdi and Coldren to provide the elongate strip as taught by Stenz so as to create longer strips of the housing.

Allowable Subject Matter

10. Claims 21-22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

11. None of the reference discloses the step of forming a plurality of connector housing covers and cover base carrier, each of the connector housing covers being a first predetermined distance from each of its adjacent housing covers aligning a first of the plurality of connector housing covers with a first of the plurality of housing base, and securing the first of the plurality of housing covers to the first of the housing base with which the first of the plurality of housing covers is aligned.

12. Claims 1-9 and 12-15 are allowed.

13. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

14. None of the reference discloses the connector with a tab-receiving region and tab type terminals in context of other claim limitations is not taught or suggested by the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phuong KT Dinh whose telephone number is 571-272-2090. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 -5, 5 days a week.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, TC Patel can be reached on 571-272-2098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Examiner



Phuong Dinh

September 14, 2004.